

Appl. No. 10/063,779
Amdt. dated November 2, 2004
Reply to Office action of August 26, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Request for continued examination:

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The Applicant respectfully requests continued examination of the above-indicated application as per 37 CFR §1.114.

2. Amendments to the specification:

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The paragraphs [0004], [0005], [0007], [0008], [0009], [0015], [0021], and [0026] are amended to correct minor grammatical informalities identified in the specification. In addition, the title, the abstract, and the paragraphs [0002], [0010], [0011] are amended to correspond with the amendments to the claims so as to be clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. No new matter is introduced by these amendments in the specification. Allowance of the amended specification is respectfully requested.

3. Amendments to the claims:

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In claims 1 and 11, the preambles thereof are amended to specifically point out the advantages of the present invention. In addition, a method step of "transferring the line patterns/element patterns of the corrected mask layout to the wafer" is also added to correspond with the amended preambles. The amended claims 1 and 11 emphasize that the outstanding feature of the present invention is not only to correct a mask layout, but also to correct critical dimensions of element patterns (line patterns) on a wafer. These amendments are entirely supported by the disclosure, and specifically, by the paragraph [0024] and Figs. 5 and 6, for instance. Consideration of the amended

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claims 1 and 11 is respectfully requested.

As claims 2-5, 7-10, 12, 14-16, and 18-20 are dependent upon the amended claims 1 and 11, they should be allowed if the amended claims 1 and 11 are allowed. Consideration of claims 2-5, 7-10, 12, 14-16, and 18-20 is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Winston Hsu, Patent Agent No. 41,526

15 P.O. BOX 506

Merrifield, VA 22116

U.S.A.

Voice Mail: 302-729-1562

Facsimile: 806-498-6673

20 e-mail : winstonhsu@naipo.com

(Please contact me by voice mail if you need a telephone communication.)